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# STAYING SPOOKED

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The spy agencies have been ordered to behave themselves.

But as these sensational, top secret schemes make painfully clear, it's business as usual in the land of dirty tricks.

- The United States and the Soviet Union are engaged in a top-secret "satellite war" in outer space. The aim is to destroy each other's intelligence surveillance satellites with laser-beam weapons. Thus far the score is 2-0 for the Russians. Washington maintains total silence about this war to avoid public complications in the negotiations for a new strategic-arms pact with Moscow.
- Foreign insurgent groups are being secretly trained in guerrilla operations by military intelligence agencies and the CIA in out-of-the-way locations in the western United States. The trainees include Laotians, Cambodians, Afghans, Kurds, and even Russians. This, presumably, portends new covert operations, to be run mainly by the military, all over the world. Appropriate congressional committees apparently have not been informed of it despite legislative requirements.
- With the surreptitious aid of American professors, Third World students at United States colleges and universities are being recruited by the CIA as future "agents of influence" for the day when they assume leadership in their countries. Currently, the CIA has its pick of 250,000 foreign students attending our institutions of higher learning. Such a program clearly degrades our American educational system.
- The CIA still secretly uses in a variety of ways American news organizations abroad as intelligence "covers" and information sources. This is being done despite the CIA's public pledge to keep its hands off United States news media.
- Shortly before the 1973 Vietnam peace settlement, United States military intelligence agencies secretly organized an elaborate "stay-behind" espionage network—linked to a parallel plan for resuming American air operations in Vietnam if the Communists violated the cease-fire—including covert penetrations by special teams from abroad. Thus the United States was prepared to

These five items, touching upon the whole spectrum of United States intelligence activities, are among the many subjects about which Americans have not been told despite three separate investigations of the intelligence community conducted in 1975 and 1976.

In some instances the investigators simply were not informed about highly sensitive operations. The intelligence agencies volunteered very little and, as a rule, were responsive to questions only when the committees developed independent leads or stumbled upon information (as in the case of the cover-up by the CIA and the FBI of crucial facts pertaining to the assassination of John F. Kennedy).

In other instances the intelligence agencies invoked "national security" as a reason for denying investigators access to certain material. Finally, there were compromises: the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, for example, negotiated the extent to which information would be "sanitized" by them—censored, of course, is a better word—before appearing in public reports.

Perhaps the most important area of such compromise on the part of the Senate committee, which engaged in the most exhaustive investigation of all the groups looking into the intelligence scandals, concerned the CIA's use of American news media and the involvement of university professors and administrators—the "academics"—in the recruitment of foreign students by the agency. The majority of the academics, some 60 percent of them, were "witting" (they knew that they were used by the CIA to finger prospective recruits); some were paid for their talent-scouting; others acted out of their perceived sense of patriotism.

But it's not entirely the CIA's fault that this description of the recruiting process failed to surface in the final report. The burden lies chiefly on Sen. Frank Church, the Idaho Democrat who served as the committee's chairman, and who, despite his many public pronouncements of indignation over CIA operations, tended to be rather reluctant to embarrass the intelligence community.

are now being used for such operational purposes as making introductions for intelligence purposes."

The Church committee also compromised to a significant degree on the question of how the CIA's collection of intelligence, a legitimate pursuit, often becomes entangled with covert operations, which was a matter of substantial concern to the investigators. In the year-long tug-of-war between the Senate committee and the agency over what materials could be made available to the senators, the CIA often refused to discuss any number of covert actions on the grounds that intelligence-collection activities could have been compromised in the process. This also applied to "black" propaganda, the CIA's planting of provocative or erroneous information in foreign news organs with the aim of achieving specific political gains.

The agency's argument, forcefully expressed by its outside attorney, Mitchell Rogovin, was that disclosures of all types of covert actions—including political

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